

LEGO BUILDERS CLUB

BRICK KICKS

The Official Magazine of the LEGO® Builders Club

Spring '89

LEGO BRICKS Unite
Nations! U.S.A.
Building Champs at
the LEGO International
Builders
Contest.

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Plus A Whole Lot More!

TIDBRICKS

Letter from the LEGO® Builders Club President



Dear LEGO Builder,

It's easy to see that LEGO Builders Club Members are especially creative and busy! Since the last issue of *Brick Kicks*, I've gotten lots of terrific, imaginative photos of Members' Masterpieces . . . Just turn to pages four and five to see some of the most colorful creations!

Speaking of LEGO brick building excitement—our three talented National Building Champs have returned from their trip to the LEGO International Building Contest at LEGOLAND Park in Billund, Denmark. You can find out what it was like to be a winner, and share all their wonderful experiences at this thrilling event when you read the special story on the opposite page.

There's no limit to what you can do with colorful LEGO pieces! The LEGO News Flash—on this page—will tell you about some very unusual and exciting new activities!

Be sure to turn to page six to see Brick, Bridget, and Comet perform a daring rescue mission. And, don't forget to check out the latest LEGO sets, featured in the Sneak Preview section! ■■■

Until the next issue . . .

Happy building to you,

Susan Williams

Susan Williams, President
LEGO Builders Club

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A LEGO Figure is Now on Top of the World!



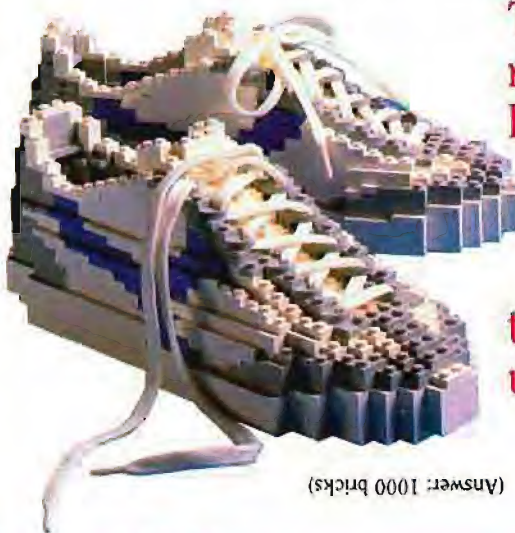
High atop Mt. Everest, the tallest mountain in the world, a little LEGO toy is buried! When four-year-old Huh Jae Suk found out that his father, adventurer Huh Yeung Ho, was going to climb Mt. Everest, he gave his dad a special LEGO good-luck charm to take with him on his exciting climb in Nepal. The young South Korean boy then asked his father to leave the little LEGO figure on top of the world!

On December 22, 1987, the brave group of climbers reached the mountain peak. It was forty-nine degrees below zero and the winds were howling. Under these severe conditions, Huh Yeung Ho kept his promise to his son and buried his lucky LEGO figure!

When the adventurers returned home, their families, friends, and the LEGO Company were at the airport to welcome this great team and honor them with a special LEGO model that displayed their heroic climb up Mt. Everest. ■■■



KICKY BRICKS



Try to run a race in these LEGO sneakers . . . and guess how many bricks it took to build this unique model!

(Answer: 1000 bricks)

THE LEGO INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CONTEST:

Fun in Any Language!

When Christoffer Fhyr, Sam Coulson, and Craig Nastanski entered the U.S. LEGO Building Contest, they never dreamed that they would end up competing for the LEGO World Cup in LEGOLAND Park in Denmark. But that's exactly what happened to these lucky Builders Club members last August! Selected as the top LEGO builders in the country, the three boys and their families were flown to Billund, Denmark to represent the United States at the International Building Contest. As a special report just for club members, here's the story of their exciting experiences. . .

The U.S. LEGO Building Contest finals were held in New York City on February 13, 1988, at the F.A.O. Schwarz toy store. Master builders Christoffer, Sam, and Craig had a great time in "The Big Apple", and enjoyed meeting other LEGO lovers from across the country.

None of the boys had ever been to Europe before, and looked forward to travelling to Denmark with their families. All their friends, relatives, and teachers cheered them on. Craig's mother said that "even the other kids from the U.S. LEGO contest called to wish us good luck."

During the International LEGO Building Contest, young master builders from around the world are given a group of LEGO bricks, and have two hours to complete a model. Then, a special group of LEGO judges choose the best model in each age group (up to six years old, between the ages of seven and ten, and ages eleven through fourteen). Three young builders are then declared World Building Champions! But even though there are first-, second-, third-, and fourth-place prizes, *everyone* is really a winner!



"Amazing!" "Spectacular!" "Fantastic!" "Cool!" These are some of the things Christoffer, Sam, and Craig had to say about LEGOLAND Park. And they all agree that competing for the LEGO World Cup was "a little scary, but fun."

Christoffer, who lives in New Jersey, won third place in the youngest age group for his model "Animals of the Zoo." He said, "when I was building, I got worried that I might not have enough pieces."

Sam lives in California, and wants to work for the LEGO company when he grows up. Although he said he was "just a little nervous during the contest", he won third place in the middle age group for his model of "Cats Chasing the Birds".

Craig lives in Michigan, and celebrated his 13th birthday in LEGOLAND. He competed in the oldest age group, and created a model of a colorful carousel. Craig explains that, "the worst time was waiting for the judges to decide. You couldn't go back and change your model anymore."

After the contest, all of the children—including their brothers and sisters—got to pick out their own LEGO building set from the LEGO store. Christoffer, Sam, and Craig each chose the sleek, new

LEGOLAND Futuron Monorail Transport System.

Everyone also attended the LEGO World Cup Ceremonial Dinner, where they became official members of "The Order of the Blue Elephant". During this special ceremony, they were given a big ribbon with a blue LEGO elephant charm—which makes them an honorary citizen of LEGOLAND forever! LEGO trophies, models of Willy Beaver—the Building Contest Mascot—and award certificates were also handed out. Other fun activities included tours of LEGO factories, seeing all the incredible LEGOLAND models, attending LEGO driving school, and visiting LEGOREDO.

The U.S. and International LEGO Building Contests happen once every four years, and the next competition is planned for 1992. Both Christoffer and Sam plan to try their luck again. In the meantime, Craig is already helping his five-year-old brother, Neil, become a master builder, because "if Neils wins, I'll get to go back to LEGOLAND with him!"



LEGO NEWS FLASH!

Freewheeling Tortoises—with LEGO Legs!



Animal doctors in England are helping injured and lame tortoises walk again—with the help of LEGO wheels! One of the tortoises, 38-year-old "Tricky Dick", lost his right hind leg because of a dog bite. During his operation, he was fixed up with a set of LEGO wheels—making him the fastest tortoise on three legs and two wheels! Another, "Tommy the Tortoise", crushed his leg in a door. His vet replaced it with a LEGO plate and wheel to get him rolling again. The vet then gave Tommy's owner a "breakdown kit" just in case he ever needs a wheel change!